

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 4 8 wherein said preferred application version is stored in said non-volatile storage system and wherein c) comprises causing said first controller to re-boot.
3. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 4 8 wherein said memory is a programmable non-volatile memory.
4. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 4 8 wherein said memory is a flash memory.
5. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 4 8 wherein said non-volatile storage system is a disk array storage system.
6. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 4 8 wherein said preferred application version provides an interface between a host server and said non-volatile storage system.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Presently Amended) A method ~~as described in Claim 7 wherein said invoking a boot sequence further comprises~~ of providing version control within a fault tolerant system comprising:

- a. invoking a boot sequence of a first controller that is coupled to a non-volatile storage system by:
 - a1. executing a first level wake-up boot sequence;
 - a2. during said first level boot sequence, checking two application versions that are associated with a second level boot sequence and selecting a most recent valid version;
 - a3. executing said most recent valid version as said second level boot sequence;
 - a4. during said second level boot sequence, checking two application versions that are associated with a third level boot sequence and selecting a most recent valid version; and
 - a5. executing said most recent valid version as said third level boot sequence;
 - b. during said boot sequence, comparing a preferred application version with a stored application version stored within a memory of said first controller;
 - c. provided said stored application version is different from said preferred application version, storing with said preferred application version into said memory; and
 - d. provided said stored application version is the same as said preferred application version, causing said first controller to execute said stored application version.
- 9. (Original) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said second level boot sequence performs hardware discovery and base level diagnostics.
- 10. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 4 8 wherein said fault tolerant system further comprises a second controller coupled to said non-volatile storage system and wherein said method further comprises:
invoking a boot sequence of said second controller while said first controller is operational;

during said boot sequence of said second controller, comparing said preferred application version with a stored application version that is stored within a memory of said second controller;
provided said stored application version of said second controller is different from said preferred application version, storing said preferred application version into said memory of said second controller and causing said second controller to re-boot; and
provided said stored application version of said second controller is the same as said preferred application version, causing said second controller to execute said stored application version.

11. (Canceled).
12. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 44 16 wherein c) comprises causing said first controller to re-boot.
13. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 44 16 wherein said memory is a flash memory.
14. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 44 16 wherein said preferred application version provides an interface between a host server and said non-volatile storage system.
15. (Canceled).
16. (Presently Amended) A method ~~as described in Claim 15 wherein said step a)~~ further comprises the steps of providing version control within a fault tolerant system comprising a non-volatile storage system coupled to first and second controllers, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a. while said second controller is operational, invoking a boot sequence of said first controller wherein said non-volatile storage system

contains a preferred application version that is associated with said non-volatile storage system by

a1. executing a first level wake-up boot sequence;

a2. during said first level boot sequence, checking two application versions that are associated with a second level boot sequence and selecting a most recent valid version;

a3. executing said most recent valid version as said second level boot sequence;

a4. during said second level boot sequence, checking two application versions that are associated with a third level boot sequence and selecting a most recent valid version; and

a5. executing said most recent valid version as said third level boot sequence;

b. during said boot sequence, comparing said preferred application version with a stored application version stored within a memory of said first controller;

c. provided said stored application version is different from said preferred application version, storing said preferred application version into said memory; and

d. provided said stored application version is the same as said preferred application version, causing said first controller to execute said stored application version.

17. (Original) A method as described in Claim 16 wherein said second level boot sequence performs hardware discovery and base level diagnostics.

18. (Presently Amended) A method as described in Claim 44 16 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

invoking a boot sequence of said second controller while said first controller is operational;

during said boot sequence of said second controller, comparing said preferred application version with a stored application version stored within a memory of said second controller;

provided said stored application version of said second controller is different from said preferred application version, storing said preferred application version into said memory of said second controller and causing said second controller to re-boot; and

provided said stored application version of said second controller is the same as said preferred application version, causing said second controller to execute said stored application version.

19-36. (Canceled)